--- 2/17th Pound - “Tuckett Tobacco”, Hamilton ---

Late in 1945, under the March 1943 Budget which doubled the *excise tax* from 1¢ to 2¢ per ounce (or fraction thereof), BABN surcharged RN-40 across the top using a single-line 3 mm. red Gothic **4c. EXCISE TAX** plus a 5 mm. red Gothic **2/17** atop the 1/7 and two red 4 mm. killer rosettes at the bottom corners as **RN-229**.

RN-229 - 1/7th pound, perf 11, surcharged **4c. EXCISE TAX**, plus **2/17** by BABN under the March 1943 Budget, coded **1-18-E / BTC** by “Tuckett Tobacco” in August 1946

[RN-229]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1945	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1946	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	**BTC**	---	---	---	---

Meanwhile **RN-34**, the 2/17th pound definitive, with the hidden letters are (K-Q), was being prepared. Surcharged as **RN-221** with the usual three-line 6 and 3 mm. red Gothic **4c. / EXCISE / TAX** by BABN, it is first listed as used by “Tuckett Tobacco” in September 1946.

RN-221 - 2/17th pound, perf 11, surcharged **4c. / EXCISE / TAX** by BABN under the March 1943 Budget, coded **1-18-E / BTD** by “Tuckett Tobacco” in November 1946

[RN-221]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1946	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	**CTC**	**ATD**	**BTD**	---
1947	**AVA**	---	---	**AVB**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

In 1947 legislation abolished the necessity of printing the *excise tax* on tobacco stamps. The cancellation collection does not contain a Tuckett used copy of **RN-34** prior to May 1951, when the following occurs:

RN-34 - 2/17th pound, perforated 11, coded **BDB** by "Tuckett Tobacco" in May 1951

[RN-34]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1951	---	---	---	---	**BDB**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

One might argue about the attribution of the above stamp, however the identical type face occurs in conjunction with **1-18-E** on Series "C" strips in the RP_STAMP collection.

At this time, the obsolete 1/13th pound RN-12 was overprinted by BABN for use at 2/17th pounds with a 6 mm. red Gothic **2/17**, plus twin paired 2 x 4 mm. vertical red killer bars at the bottom corners as **RN-234**. Lee Brandom has mistakenly listed this overprint as from the 1st Wartime Budget.

RN-234 - 1/13th pound, perforated 11, overprinted **2/17** by BABN,
coded **CDB** by "Tuckett Tobacco" in June 1951

[RN-234]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1951	---	---	---	---	---	**CDB**	---	---	---	---	---	---

In 1951 Imperial Tobacco changed their long standing three letter date coding, and adopted a three digit code. Based on the cigarette cancellations from Imperial Tobacco, I think this new code initially reads weekly, changing to semi-monthly (from October 1952 until April 1954), and thence again reading as four per month until the two-digit monthly codes begin in June 1956. A collection purchased many years ago, stated that the numbers **129-130** and **134-138** were not used due to a plant strike, and that the numbers **148-199** were omitted when production re-started.

Also at this time, surplus copies of the 1/11th pound RN-20 were overprinted by BABN for use at 2/17th pounds with a 6 mm. red Gothic **2/17**, plus twin paired 2 x 4 mm. vertical red killer bars at the bottom corners as **RN-236**. Lee Brandom has mistakenly again listed this overprint as from the 1st Wartime Budget.

RN-236 - 1/11th pound, perf 11, overprinted **2/17** by BABN,
coded **2 0 9** by "Tuckett Tobacco" in March 1952

[RN-236]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1952	---	---	**2 0 9**	---	---	**2 2 1**	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---			
	---	---	---	---	**2 2 0**	---	---	---	---			

"Tuckett Tobacco" used the following copies of **RN-34**:

RN-34 - 2/17th pound, perf 11, coded **2 7 0** by "Tuckett Tobacco" in March 1954

[RN-34]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1952	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	**227**	---	---			
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	**235**			
1953	---	---	---	---	---	---	**254**	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1954	---	---	**2 7 0**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
				2 7 4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
				---	---	---	---	---	**2 9 5**	---	---	---
1955	---	---	---	**3 2 0**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	**3 2 1**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	**3 1 5**	**3 1 9**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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